

REMARKS

Applicant incorporates herein all arguments presented in the July 13, 2009 Response. Additionally, Applicant hereby amends claim 1.

Claim 1 now recites, “the device for processing further comprising a first ring-shaped plate and a second ring-shaped plate provided entirely inside the enclosure and formed so as to surround the tube.” (emphasis added)

In the attachment to the July 17, 2009 Advisory Action, the Examiner maintains that at least part of the alleged ring shaped plates 3 and 4 of Lieber can be considered “inside” the enclosure since they have a side exposed to the plasma region. As set forth above, however, claim 1 now recites that the first and second ring-shaped plates are provided “entirely” inside the enclosure. Since the alleged plates 3 and 4 of Lieber actually form a top and bottom cover of the enclosure and thus have portions outside of the enclosure, Applicant submits that Lieber fails to disclose the claimed features.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114(c)
U.S. Application No.: 10/501,718

Attorney Docket No.: Q66643

overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "A. Tulino", is written over a horizontal line.

Allison M. Tulino
Registration No. 48,294

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: September 30, 2009